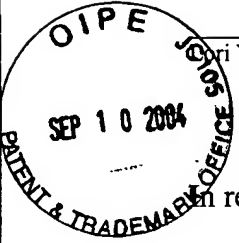


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 7, 2004.

CUSTOMER NUMBER

24024



Cori Yaneff

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

Williams, et al.

Serial No.: 10/707,697

Filed: January 5, 2004

For: FERRULE WITH RELIEF  
TO REDUCE GALLING

Examiner: Nicholson, E

Art Unit: 3679

Attorney Docket No.: 22188/06732

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action dated April 7, 2004, Applicants hereby respond as follows. The shortened period for response expired July 7, 2004, accordingly Applicants hereby petition for a two month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 03-0172 in the amount of \$420.00 for payment of the two month extension of time. The extended due date for this response therefore is September 7, 2004. It is believed that there is no additional fee associated with the filing and consideration of this amendment, however, **should the Commissioner decide that any fee or fee deficiency is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any and all fees incurred as a result of entering this amendment and response to deposit account number 03-0172.**

Please amend the application as follows:

09/13/2004 BABRAHA1 00000003 10707697

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